

Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 /072 W

----- 110219

R 111610Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4592

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT UNN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO UNN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS UNN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR AU MO

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY LEADS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL
VISIT TO MOROCCO

1. AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY, WHO VISITED MOROCCO
FEB 9-11 AT HEAD OF DELEGATION FROM SOCIALIST INTER-
NATIONAL, RECEIVED RED CARPET TREATMENT FROM GOM.
PRIME MINISTER GAVE LUNCH IN HIS HONOR FEB 9 WHICH
ATTENDED BY VARIOUS POLITICAL LEADERS, INCLUDING
BOUCETTA OF ISTIQLAL, BOUABID OF SOCIALIST UNION, YATA
OF (COMMUNIST) PARTY OF PROGRESS AND SOCIALISM,
AND KHATIB OF PRO-REGIME CONSTITUTIONAL AND
DEMOCRATIC POPULAR MOVEMENT. ON FEB 10, CHANCELLOR
AND DELEGATION MET WITH PRIME MINISTER AND THEN FLEW TO
FES WHERE THEY WERE KING'S GUESTS AT LUNCH. KREISKY,
WHILE REFUSING TO COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF HIS TALK

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WITH KING, SAID HE HAD BEEN MOST IMPRESSED AND PLEASED
WITH INTERVIEW. FOR HIS PART, KING, WHO IS RECUPERATING FROM

SURGERY, APPEARED ACTIVE AND WELL IN TELEVISION COVERAGE OF THIS EVENT. FOLLOWING RETURN TO RABAT AFTERNOON FEB 10, KREISKY GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH HE INDICATED HE WOULD HAVE FURTHER MEETINGS WITH MOROCCAN POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS. UPON LEAVING MOROCCO FEB 11, GROUP WILL VISIT ALGIERS, TRIPOLI, AND TUNIS.

2. IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS, KREISKY NOTED THAT THIS WAS INTERNATIONAL'S SECOND VISIT TO MIDEAST. FIRST HAD BEEN TO EASTERN ARAB COUNTRIES. DELEGATION'S GOALS WERE TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO MIDEAST CRISIS, STUDY EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE IDEA AND LEARN TO WHAT EXTENT CONTACT WOULD BE POSSIBLE BETWEEN THE VARIOUS ARAB PARTIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT INTERNATIONAL WAS NOT ON A RECRUITING MISSION.

3. BOTH KREISKY AND MOROCCAN PRESS DEMONSTRATED PREOCCUPATION WITH INTERNATIONAL'S TIES WITH ISRAEL AND AUSTRIA'S ROLE IN EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS. KREISKY STRESSED INTERNATIONAL'S TIES WITH ISRAELI SOCIALISTS. INTERNATIONAL, HE SAID, KNOWS POINT OF VIEW OF ISRAELIS; PURPOSE OF TRIP WAS TO LEARN VIEWPOINT OF ARABS. IN RESPONSE TO HEAVY QUESTIONING ON AUSTRIAN ACCEPTANCE OF SOVIET JEWS, KREISKY NOTED THAT AUSTRIA WAS OPEN TO PEOPLE FROM ALL COUNTRIES. THUS 200,000 HUNGARIANS, 50,000 CZECHS, 2,000 INDIANS FROM UGANDA AND 100 CHILEANS HAD FOUND REFUGE THERE, AND HUNDREDS OF ARAB STUDENTS WERE CURRENTLY LIVING IN AUSTRIA AS WELL. NOW THAT SCHOENAU REFUGEE CENTER CLOSED, SOVIET REFUGEES FREE TO COME TO AUSTRIA AS TRAVELLERS WHERE THEY WERE SOMETIMES RECEIVED BY AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

4. COMMENT: GOM CLEARLY ANXIOUS HELP INTERNATIONAL INFORM ITSELF ON ARAB AFFAIRS. AS ONE DIPLOMAT WHOSE COUNTRY REPRESENTED ON DELEGATION PUT IT, INTERNATIONAL'S HISTORIC TIES WITH JEWS AND ISRAEL WELL KNOWN, AND GROUP NOW SEEKING TO PUBLICIZE BROADENING OF ITS HORIZONS. AT SAME TIME, KREISKY WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT INTERNATIONAL WOULD NOT RENOUNCE IN ANY WAY ITS TIES TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ISRAEL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RABAT00791
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750050-0100
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750253/aaaabvwh.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY LEADS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL VISIT TO MOROCCO
TAGS: PFOR, AU, MO, (KREISKY, BRUNO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006